

Alberta

DRIVERS' MANUAL



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Part I

Driving Regulations

Right of Way

Stopping

Passing

Turning

Signalling

Speed Limits

Dimming of Lights

Stopping on Highways

Reporting Accidents

Suspension of Licenses

RIGHT-OF-WAY

The law provides that when two vehicles approach an intersection at the same instant as indicated in figure 1 the vehicle to the RIGHT has right-of-way.

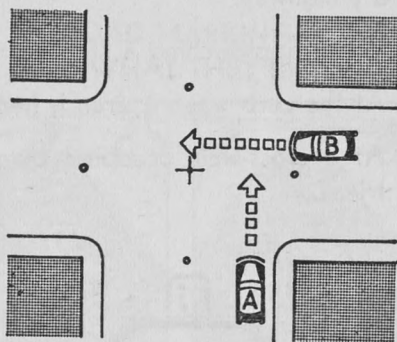


Fig. 1. "B" has right-of-way.

A driver intending to turn left at an intersection into the face of oncoming traffic as indicated in figure 2 must wait until all oncoming traffic within a reasonable distance has passed through the intersection before proceeding.

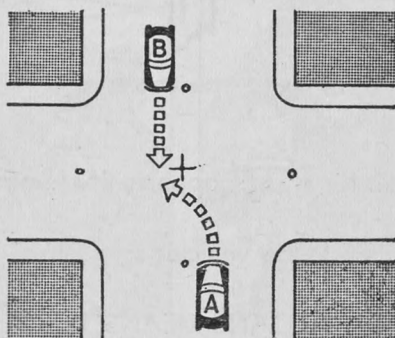


Fig. 2. "B" has right of way.

STOPPING

A Motorist Must Stop:

- . . . Before entering any main or secondary highway.
- . . . When approaching a stop sign.
- . . . At the curb when a siren is heard.
- . . . At a cross-walk occupied by pedestrians.



Fig. 3. The Stop Sign.

Wait for a SAFE opportunity to proceed.

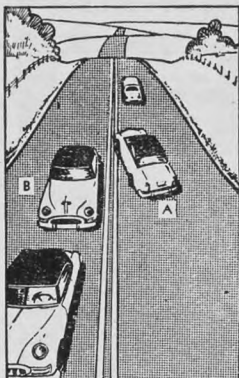
DON'T follow vehicles sounding siren.

A WHITE CANE MEANS THE BEARER IS BLIND—BE CAREFUL.

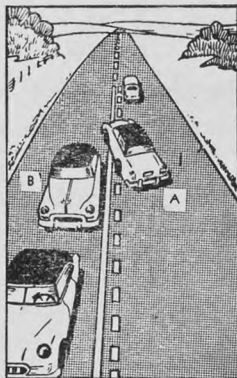
PASSING

Overtaking and passing other vehicles travelling in the same direction can be hazardous. In all cases the operator of the

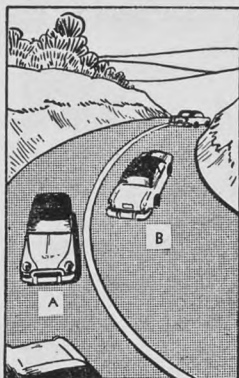
ROAD MARKINGS AND WHAT THEY MEAN



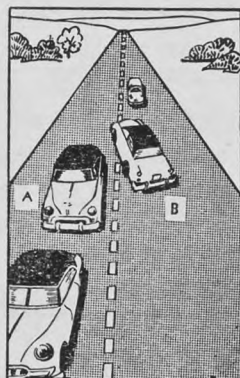
Neither A nor B may pass the car ahead.



A may pass, but B may not pass the car ahead.



Neither A nor B may pass the car ahead.



A or B may pass if road is clear.

Fig. 4.

overtaking vehicle must be alert, have a clear vision and display a maximum amount of driving courtesy.

Wait until the left hand lane is free of traffic for a reasonable distance, then sound horn and signal intentions before passing.

The driver about to be passed should move to the right to allow free passage.

After passing do not return to the right side of the road ahead of the motor vehicle just passed until it can be seen in the rear-view mirror.

DO NOT pass other vehicles while proceeding uphill, while crossing bridges, on any curve to the right or any curve to the left unless markings permit.

In the case of three or four lane highways the centre lane or the inside lane is used for passing and left turns only.

TURNING

All turns must be made from the proper lane and signals must be given at least 100 feet ahead of the turning point.

SIGNALLING

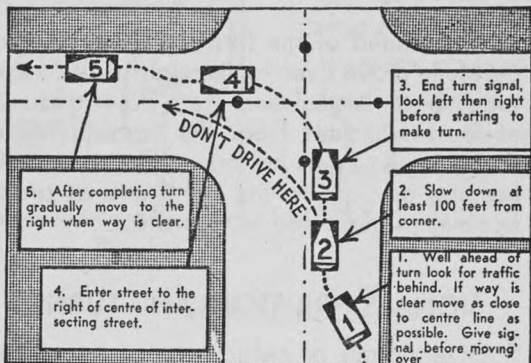


Fig. 5

To Turn Left

Well ahead of the turn the driver should carefully move close to the centre line; begin turn signal and start to slow down at least 100 feet from the corner. When all oncoming traffic is clear of the intersection for a reasonable distance, make the turn as indicated in figure 5.

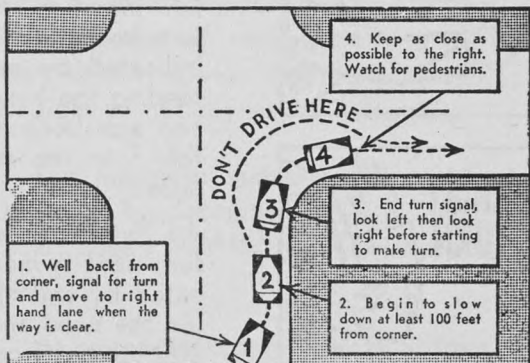


Fig. 6

To Turn Right

Well ahead of the turn the driver should carefully move over to the right side of the road; begin signal and start slowing down at least 100 feet from the corner. When the way is clear he may then proceed, keeping as close to the right curb as practicable, as indicated in figure 6.

SIGNALS FOR STOPS AND TURNS

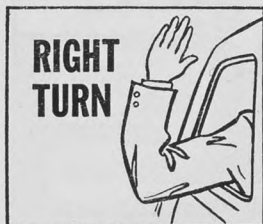
Give signals at sufficient distance from the place of turning, stopping or changing direction to permit other drivers or persons to be prepared for change.

Signals must be given by means of the hand and arm or by an approved mechanical or electrical signalling device.



When Hand Signals Are Used:

. . . An intention to turn to the left is indicated by extending the hand and arm horizontally from the vehicle.



. . . An intention to turn right is indicated by extending the hand and arm upward from the vehicle.



Fig. 7

. . . An intention to stop or slow down is made by extending the hand and arm downward from the vehicle.

SPEED LIMITS

Speed limits do NOT indicate the speed at which drivers should travel; they are simply the maximum rates which are permitted if conditions are favourable. ANY SPEED WHICH IS UNSAFE UNDER THE PREVAILING CONDITIONS IS ILLEGAL.

At all times speed should be governed by the factors of safety. A driver must take into consideration special conditions; slow down at intersections, curves and in the presence of pedestrians and parked cars; or driving when road, surface, weather or light conditions are unfavourable.

The maximum speed limit on Alberta highways for passenger cars is 60 miles per hour. Speed limit for trucks is 50 miles per hour.

A reasonable speed within a town or village is not in excess of 25 miles per

hour, or 10 miles an hour when turning a corner.

In school zones between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on school days, the speed limit is 20 miles per hour in cities and 25 miles per hour elsewhere.

DRIVING TOO SLOWLY CAN ALSO CREATE A HAZARD BY BLOCKING NORMAL TRAFFIC ON THE HIGHWAY. DRIVE AT A REASONABLE SPEED AT ALL TIMES.

DIMMING OF LIGHTS

Lights must be dimmed at least 400 yards from an oncoming vehicle.

It is a good practice to watch the right hand side of the road and keep well to the right when meeting cars with bright lights.

STOPPING ON HIGHWAYS

If a driver must stop on a highway outside of a city or town, the vehicle should be off the travelled portion of the road.

Pull to the right as far as possible.

REPORTING ACCIDENTS

Every driver involved in an accident which results in bodily injury or damage to property exceeding \$75 is required to report the accident immediately to the nearest police officer.

SUSPENSION OF LICENSES

Licenses are Suspended:

- . . . one year for driving while intoxicated.
- . . . ⁶~~two~~ months for driving while ability is impaired by alcohol.
- . . . following an accident where there is bodily injury or damage to property in excess of \$75.
- . . . upon conviction for reckless or dangerous driving unless proof of financial responsibility is filed — i.e. an insurance policy certificate, a bond, or a deposit of \$11,000 in cash.
- . . . upon conviction for speeding, careless driving, etc., if there is bodily injury or property damage in excess of \$75 unless proof of financial responsibility is filed.
- . . . by a court at its discretion.
- . . . for failure to pay a judgment obtained as a result of an accident.

Part II

Equipment of Vehicles

Brakes

Lights

Tires

Steering Mechanism

Other Equipment

A good driver has his vehicle inspected at regular short intervals.

The law requires that all motor vehicles be inspected and approved at least once in every twelve months.

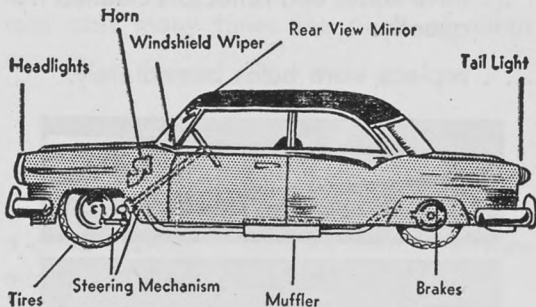


Fig. 8. These parts should be kept in proper condition at all times.

BRAKES

The law requires that every motor vehicle be equipped with adequate brakes and that they be maintained in good working order at all times.

LIGHTS

All motor vehicles except motorcycles, power bicycles and motor scooters, must be equipped with two properly focused headlights capable of illuminating a distance of 300 feet under normal atmospheric conditions and must also be equipped with a red tail light.

Motorcycles, power bicycles and scooters must have one properly focused headlight and a red tail lamp.

For the driver's own protection:

- . . . have headlights focussed frequently.
- . . . have lenses and reflectors cleaned frequently.
- . . . replace worn bulbs immediately.

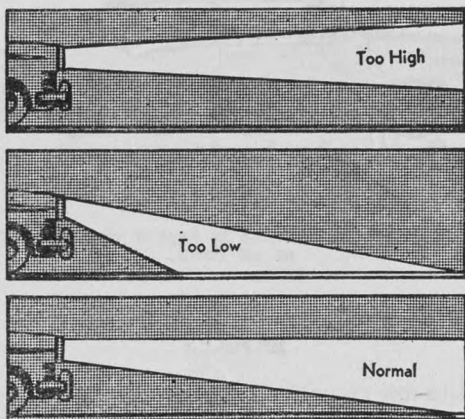


Fig. 9. Proper focusing of headlights.

Headlights must be lighted from one hour after sunset until one hour before sunrise, or whenever visibility is dangerously restricted.

TIRES

Maintain tire equipment in good condition. Smooth and worn tires contribute to many accidents.

STEERING MECHANISM

If there is too much play in the steering mechanism (when the steering wheel rim can be turned more than two inches without turning the wheels) the mechanism should be checked. An accident resulting from improperly maintained equipment may cost many times the price of minor repairs.

OTHER EQUIPMENT

All motor vehicles must be equipped with a good muffler, a suitable horn, rear-view mirror and a windshield wiper.

Part III

Safe Operation of Motor Vehicles

Emergency Stops

Braking

Blowouts

Skidding

Driving on Curves and Hills

Following Other Vehicles

Parking

Traffic Signals

Carbon Monoxide

Rules of Safe Driving

EMERGENCY STOPS

Many accidents could be prevented by the proper use of good brakes. Improper braking or poor brakes are a menace both to the driver and to the general public.

Looking

A driver must always be alert. He should look where he is going. Keep eyes and head moving to avoid monotony.

Reacting

When a dangerous object has been sighted it takes time to react. The brain must send a message to the foot, which in turn must be pulled off the accelerator, shifted to the brake pedal and pressure applied to work the brakes. Reaction time may seem unimportant but at the high speeds travelled in automobiles it is very significant.

ALWAYS MAINTAIN A REASONABLE RATE OF SPEED.

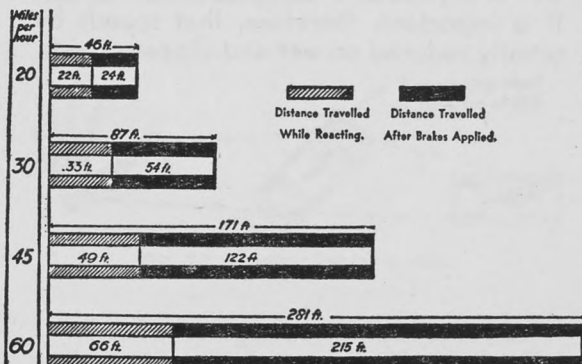
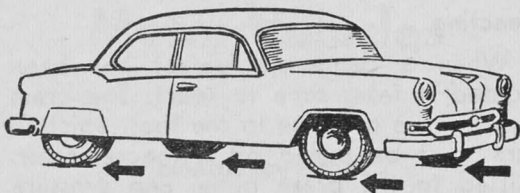


Fig. 10. Reaction and braking chart.

BRAKING

As will be noted in figure 10 a motor vehicle travels a long distance after the brakes are applied.

The ability of brakes to stop a car depends upon the grip that tires have on only four small surface areas as shown by the arrows in figure 11.



Control of a car depends upon the grip of these four small surfaces.

Fig. 11.

On dry roads a car travels a long way before the forward motion is halted. On wet or icy roads a car goes much farther. It is important, therefore, that speeds be greatly reduced on wet and slippery roads.

BLOWOUTS

If a Tire Blows Out

- (a) Grip steering wheel hard and hold car on proper side of the road.
- (b) Don't jam on the brakes; it will throw the car in the ditch or in the path of oncoming traffic.
- (c) Don't push the clutch pedal; let the engine brake the car.
- (d) When speed is reduced to 15 miles per hour apply the brakes cautiously.

SKIDDING

Few skids need occur if the driver is prepared to make extra allowance when driving on roads that are slippery.

In a skid never apply the brakes or step on the accelerator suddenly. Instead, turn the steering wheel in the direction of the skid as indicated below.

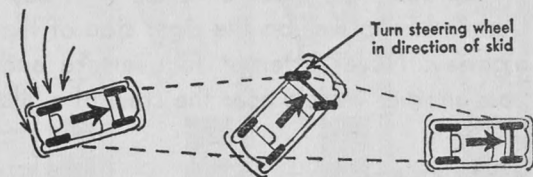


Fig. 12. Steering out of a skid.

When reducing speed on a slippery road surface, alternately apply and release the brakes.

If Wheels Run Off Pavement

Don't jerk back onto the road. Remove foot from accelerator but do not push the clutch pedal in. Allow engine to reduce speed of car before pulling back onto the pavement. If jerked back onto the road by a quick turn of the wheels a car may swerve into the path of oncoming traffic.

DRIVING ON CURVES AND HILLS

When Rounding a Curve

A driver may accelerate slightly after entering a curve. The car is steadier when the engine is pulling.

Brakes cannot safely be applied after a car has entered a curve.

Driving on Hills

Approach the crest of a hill with caution and keep well on the right side of the highway. Never attempt to overtake and pass another vehicle near the crest of a hill.

Avoid Stalling

In order to avoid stalling, make a practice of changing down into second gear as soon as the speed drops below 20 miles per hour.

FOLLOWING OTHER VEHICLES

Don't follow the car ahead too closely. Increase the distance between vehicles as the speed is increased and allow at least two feet distance for each mile per hour of speed. This not only lessens the possibility of rear-end collisions but permits other drivers to pass more safely.



Fig. 13

PARKING

Entering Parking Place

The simple steps shown in figure 14 should be followed when parallel parking.

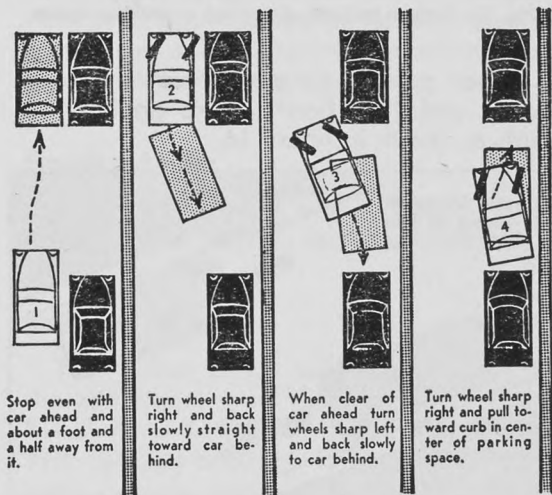


Fig. 14

Leaving Parking Place

Before driving from a parking space into the traffic stream, signal to turn and come out slowly when the way is clear. Many accidents are caused by drivers who dart suddenly from a parking space without looking carefully for oncoming cars. Never emerge from a parking space until it can be done in safety.



Fig. 15. Proper method of leaving a parking space.

When parking on a slope set the hand brake and turn front wheels against the curb as shown in figure 16.

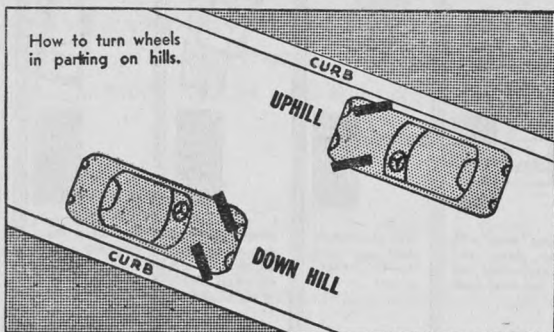


Fig. 16. Parking on a grade.

TRAFFIC SIGNALS

When approaching any traffic signal or lights, the driver of the vehicle must obey them.

Green

When the signal shows green a driver may go ahead. He must, however, yield the right of way to vehicles and pedestrians who may be crossing when the light changes. When making a turn on green, the right of way must be given to pedestrians crossing on the green light.

Amber

An amber signal is shown to warn and slow down approaching drivers and also as a means of safely clearing the intersection of vehicles and pedestrians.

Flashing Amber

A flashing amber signal means "slow down" and drive with increased caution.

Red

The driver of a vehicle approaching the red signal must COME TO A FULL STOP AND CANNOT PROCEED UNTIL THE GREEN SIGNAL IS SHOWN, unless signs, signals or local by-laws permit a special movement of traffic on a red light.

Flashing Red

A flashing red signal means that drivers must come to a full stop. After stopping, they cannot proceed until they can do so with safety.

Traffic Signs

Drivers must exercise the utmost care when signs on the highway indicate that the vehicle is approaching an intersecting highway, a curve, a schoolhouse, railroad crossing or other place where increased danger may exist.

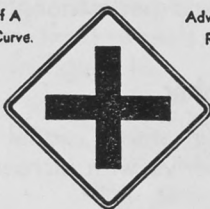
WARNING SIGNS



Advance Warning Of A
Right Hand Reverse Curve.



Advance Warning Of A
Right Hand Curve.



Crossroads



Advance Warning Of A
Right Hand Turn.



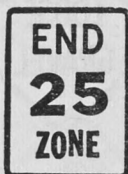
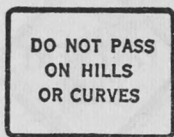
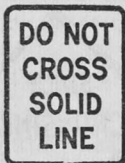
Advance Warning
Of Winding Road.



REGULATORY SIGNS



Stop Sign



Railroad Crossing.

CARBON MONOXIDE

The exhaust of every motor vehicle contains this odorless, colourless and tasteless **deadly** gas.

To prevent fatalities from this source:

- . . . be sure that this deadly gas is not leaking into the car.
- . . . if intending to park and remain in the car shut off the motor.
- . . . do not leave motor running in a closed garage.
- . . . at the first sign of a headache or nausea shut off the motor and get out of the vehicle into the fresh air.

RULES OF SAFE DRIVING

No one can be considered a safe driver unless his traffic habits include care, courtesy and common sense as fundamentals for safety.

No method of approach to the traffic problem will bring more beneficial results than observance of the following rules:

1. Consider the rights and privileges of others.
2. Drive at a reasonable and proper speed at all times.
3. Give full and individual attention to driving. A driver wishing to enjoy the scenery or "window shop" should park his car.
4. Know the stopping distance at all times. Reasonable speed in fair weather or on a dry surface may be dangerous in rain or snow or during darkness.
5. Keep brakes, lights, steering mechanism and tires in good operating condition at all times. Failure to do so is an indication of a dangerous and irresponsible driver.
6. Don't insist on "right of way." Life and health are much more important.
7. Watch the car ahead and don't follow too closely.
8. Watch the car behind and signal intention to stop or change direction.

9. Never pass another vehicle on a hill or curve or at a point where the view is obstructed.
10. Slow down at crossings, street intersections, schools and when passing parked cars. A few seconds lost may save a lifetime of regret.
11. Observe road signs and signals. They have a definite purpose—to prevent accidents.
12. Be particularly careful when passing pedestrians or cyclists. Get a foot on the brake; then sound the horn if it is absolutely necessary.
13. The white cane, the symbol of the sightless, reminds a driver that he must do the seeing for the blind pedestrian as well as himself. The white cane carrier depends on the driver for his safety.
14. Never drive after drinking.
15. Never drive on a strange road as fast as on a familiar one. On strange roads a driver is largely dependent upon road signs.
16. Don't annoy the driver ahead by unnecessarily using the horn. Spare the nerves of other drivers.
17. Follow the "Golden Rule" of driving. DRIVE AS YOU WOULD HAVE OTHERS DRIVE. Courteous driving will prevent many accidents.

Part IV

Questions

Page numbers indicating where the answers may be found are given after each question

1. What is the maximum speed limit on the highway outside the limits of cities, towns or villages? (page 9)
2. What is the maximum speed limit allowed through school zones during school hours? (page 10)
3. Is 35 miles per hour deemed to be an unreasonable rate of speed in a city, town or village? (page 9)
4. If a driver has to stop when driving on wet pavement, how should he apply his brakes? (page 19)
5. When a vehicle skids what action should a driver take? (page 19)
6. How should a car be properly parked on a hill? (page 22)
7. Is it permissible to park on a highway? (page 10)
8. Should the driver report to the police an accident occasioning bodily injury or property damage in excess of \$75? (page 10)
9. When two vehicles, at approximately the same time, enter an intersection at which there is no traffic control, which vehicle has the right of way? (page 3)
10. How should a right hand turn be made? (page 8)

11. How should a left hand turn be made?
(page 7)
12. If a pedestrian is crossing a street on a green light and a driver is about to turn, who has the right of way? (page 23)
13. What is the meaning of these traffic lights:
(a) Red (b) Green (c) Amber. (page 23)
14. What must a driver do when a vehicle sounding a siren approaches? (page 4)
15. What must be done when a driver of another vehicle gives a signal that he desires to pass?
(page 6)
16. Should a driver pass a vehicle going in the same direction when approaching a curve, or on a hill? (page 6)
17. When must headlights be dimmed? (page 10)
18. How should a car be controlled when a tire blows out? (page 19)
19. When leaving the curb, how should a driver proceed? (page 22)
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(page 6)
21. When should headlights be lighted (page 14)
22. Is it ever permissible to cross a double solid line for the purpose of overtaking and passing a vehicle ahead? (page 5)
23. When driving on a highway where a solid and broken line appear together and the solid line is on the driver's side, may he cross these two lines? (page 5)
24. What hand signal is made for stopping?
(page 9)
25. What hand signal is made for a right turn?
(page 8)
26. What is the meaning of a flashing red light?
(page 24)

27. What does the eight-sided sign mean?
(page 4)
28. In overtaking and passing another car, how far must the driver proceed beyond it before turning back into the lane in which he is travelling? (page 6)
29. What is the correct position on the roadway before making a left turn? (page 7)
30. What is the correct position on the roadway before making a right turn? (page 8)
31. What does the law require when a driver is involved in a motor vehicle accident? (page 10)
32. What accidents must be reported to the nearest police officer? (page 10)
33. Is it permissible to make a right turn against a stop sign without first coming to a full stop?
(page 4)
34. Is a driver responsible for the maintenance of the brakes on his car? (page 13)
35. What should a driver do when a dangerous object appears on the highway? (page 17)
36. How often is it required by law for a driver to have his vehicle inspected? (page 13)
37. What is the proper hand signal to show an intention to slow down? (page 9)
38. Is carbon monoxide gas deadly? (page 27)
39. When the presence of carbon monoxide gas is detected in a vehicle what should the driver do? (page 27)
40. May a driver's license be suspended if the driver is convicted for speeding? (page 11)

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The Floral Emblem Act, 1930, adopted the
wild rose as the floral emblem of Alberta

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